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Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00
DLOS-09 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /079 W
----------270954Z 009041 /21
R 270910Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7290
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, JA, UR, ELAB
SUBJECT: FOUR LABOR CONFEDERATIONS JOINTLY PROTEST SOVIET STANCE ON FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS

REF: TOKYO 6099 AND PREVIOUS

1. SECRETARIES GENERAL OF SOHYO, DOMEI, CHURITSU ROREN AND JJIPINSANBETSU, JAPAN'S FOUR NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATIONS, JOINTLY CALLED ON SOVIET AMBASSADOR POLYANSKII APRIL 26 TO DISCUSS SUSPENDED FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS. THEY PRESENTED PETITION, ADDRESSED TO SOVIET PREMIER KOSYGIN, REQUESTING SOVIETS TO SETTLE ISSUE RAPIDLY AND ON BASIS OF SOVIET-JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP BEFORE JAPANESE FISHERMEN LOSE THEIR JOBS. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, AMBASSADOR POLYANSKII, WHILE PROMISING TO TRANSMIT PETITION, REPLIED THAT SOVIET NEGOTIATING STANCE BASED ON NEED TO CONSERVE SCARCE FISHERY RESOURCES AND MADE NO MENTION OF NORTHERN TERRITORIES ISSUE. IN CONVERSATION WITH LABATT APRIL 27, DOMEI SECGEN MAEKAWA SAID, HOWEVER, THAT POLYANSKII CLEARLY LAID BLAME FOR BREAKDOWN IN NEGOTIATIONS ON GOJ'S INTRODUCTION OF "POLITICAL ISSUE" AND SAID SOVIET POSITION SIMPLY REAFFIRMATION OF STANCE TAKEN
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IN PREVIOUS FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS WITH JAPAN.

2. JAPAN'S SEAMEN'S UNION (KAIIN) PRESIDENT MURAKAMI TOLD LABATT THAT HOKKAIDO FISHERMEN BELONGING TO HIS UNION NOW URGING THAT GOJ FORSAKE "THEORETICAL" ISSUE OF NORTHERN TERRITORIES IN ORDER TO NEGOTIATE RAPID SETTLEMENT ENABLING THEM TO BEGIN FISHING IN NEXT

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COUPLE WEEKS. MURAKAMI TELLING MEMBERSHIP THAT SINCE POLITICAL ISSUE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN IS AT STAKE, THEY MAY HAVE TO RELY ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TO MAKE ENDS MEET FOR SOME TIME. MURAKAMI BELIEVES THAT, AT LEAST AMONG SOME HOKKAIDO FISHERMEN, SOVIET EFFORT TO GENERATE POPULAR PRESSURE AGAINST GOJ NEGOTIATING POSITION IS BEGINNING TO HAVE SOME EFFECT.

3. FOUR NATIONAL CONFEDERATIONS NOW CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF SENDING MISSION TO MOSCOW NEXT WEEK TO PRESENT ANOTHER PETITION FROM JAPANESE WORKERS TO SOVIET FISHERIES MINISTER. DOMEI HAS ALREADY INDICATED IT WILL PARTICIPATE BUT AT LEVEL LOWER THAN THAT OF SECRETARY GENERAL.

4. COMMENT: PROTEST AT SOVIET EMBASSY REPRESENTS FIRST TIME THAT FOUR JAPANESE LABOR CONFEDERATIONS, USUALLY SHARPLY DIVIDED ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS, HAVE JOINED FORCES ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, FISHING LIMITS
Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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